

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 /046 W

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R 251018Z MAY 76

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1306

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDON DERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 192

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UK, EI

SUBJECT: PAISLEY/BAIRD PLEDGE "DEFINITE ACTION"

1. FOLLOWING MEETING UNITED ULSTER UNIONIST COALITION (UUUC) STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY OFFICIAL UNIONIST HARRY WEST MAY 24, ERNEST BAIRD, LEADER OF UNITED ULSTER UNIONIST MOVEMENT (UUUM) AND REVEREND IAN PAISLEY LEADER DEMOCRATIC UNIONIST PARTY (DUP) RELEASED JOINT STATEMENT ANNOUNCING DECISION TO TAKE "DEFINITE ACTION ... TO DEFEND OUR PEOPLE AS MR. REES HAS UTTERLY AND TOTALLY FAILED ULSTER." NATURE ACTION UNSPECIFIED BUT STATEMENT CONTINUED: "WITHIN A MATTER OF HOURS THE WORLD WILL KNOW THAT THE ULSTER LOYALISTS ARE DETERMINED NOT ONLY TO DEFEND THEMSELVES BUT TO SAVE THEIR PROVINCE." REASONS FOR DECISION GIVEN INCLUDE "... CONTINUED NEGOTIATION (PART OFFICIALS NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE) WITH PROVISIONALS SINN FEIN ARE NOTHING LESS THAN TREACHERY."

2. OFFICIAL UNIONISTS RESERVED POSITION. WEST AGREED "SOMETHING MUST BE DONE" BUT CITED NECESSITY TO CONSULT PARTY BEFORE COMMITTING IT TO ACTION. IN LATER INTERVIEW WEST DECLINED DESCRIBE NATURE OF ACTION BUT ACKNOWLEDGED HE HAD TOLD MEETING OFFICIAL UNIONISTS MIGHT JOIN LATER.

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3. SPECULATION PRESS AND ELSEWHERE IN BELFAST MAY 25 CENTERED AROUND PROBABILITY UUUM/DUP WOULD SET UP VIGILANTE COMMITTEES AS PATROLS. STRIKE ALONG LINES 1974 ULSTER WORKERS COUNCIL ACTION NOT RPT NOT LIKELY. SO FAR AS KNOWN POLITICIANS DO NOT RPT NOT ENJOY SUPPORT PARAMILITARY ORGANIZATIONS AT PRESENT TIME. VIGILANTE PATROLS, STOP AND SEARCH OPERATIONS OR ROAD BLOCKS TO BE EFFECTIVE WOULD HAVE TO BE MOUNTED OUTSIDE PROTESTANT NEIGHBORHOODS. PARAMILITARIES, ESPECIALLY ULSTER DEFENSE ASSOCIATION, HAVE PATROLLED UNARMED OCCASIONALLY IN AREAS THEY DOMINATE BUT HAVE NOT, SINCE 1974, RISKED CONFRONTATION WITH SECURITY FORCES BY PATROLLING OUTSIDE THESE AREAS.

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## Message Attributes

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